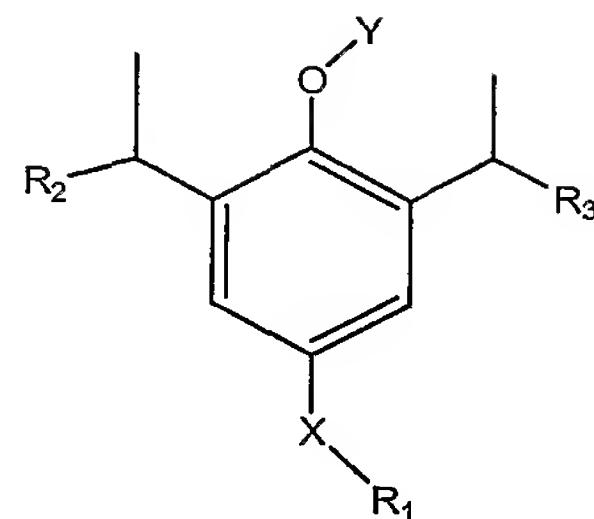


**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A compound of the formula



wherein

$R_1$  is hydrogen,  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl, or  $C_4-C_{20}$  aryl, and

$R_2$  and  $R_3$  is  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl.

$X$  is  $C=O$ ,  $C=S$ ,  $C=C$ ,  $CR_4R_5$ ,  $C(OR_6)R_7$  or  $C=N-OR_8$

$Y$  is hydrogen,  $COR_4$ ,  $COOR_4$ ,  $CONR_4R_5$ ,  $COSR_4$ , phosphate.

wherein

$R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  are hydrogen, or  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $X$  is  $C=O$ ,  $R_1$  is  $C_4-C_{20}$  aryl, and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are methyl.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $X$  is  $C=O$ ,  $R_1$  is  $C_4-C_{20}$  aryl,  $R_2$  is hydrogen, and  $R_3$  is methyl.

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $X$  is  $C=O$ ,  $R_1$  is  $C_4-C_{20}$  aryl, and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are ethyl.

5. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $X$  is  $C=O$ ,  $R_1$  is aryl,  $R_2$  is hydrogen, and  $R_3$  is ethyl.

6. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $X$  is  $C=O$ ,  $R_1$  is  $C_4-C_{20}$  aryl,  $R_2$  is methyl, and  $R_3$  is ethyl.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, and R<sub>3</sub> is propyl.

8. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is methyl, and R<sub>3</sub> is propyl.

9. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is ethyl, and R<sub>3</sub> is propyl.

10. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are propyl.

11. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are methyl.

12. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, and R<sub>3</sub> is methyl.

13. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are ethyl.

14. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, and R<sub>3</sub> is ethyl.

15. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is methyl, and R<sub>3</sub> is ethyl.

16. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, and R<sub>3</sub> is propyl.

17. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is methyl, and R<sub>3</sub> is propyl.

18. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, R<sub>2</sub> is ethyl, and R<sub>3</sub> is propyl.

19. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y=H, R<sub>1</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> aryl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are propyl.

20. The compound of claim 2, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxophenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl, 5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

21. The compound of claim 2, wherein Y is H and R<sub>1</sub> is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxophenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl,

5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

22. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein  $R_1$  is phenyl.
23. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein  $R_1$  is phenyl and  $Y$  is H.
24. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein  $R_1$  is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl, 3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxophenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl, 5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.
25. The compound of any of claims 3-10, wherein  $Y$  is H and  $R_1$  is selected from the group consisting of 4-fluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 4-bromophenyl,

3-bromophenyl, 2-bromophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 3-chlorophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 3-chloromethylphenyl, 2-iodophenyl, 4-iodophenyl, 4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl, 3-propylphenyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 4-bromomethylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-biphenyl, 1-naphthalenyl, 2-naphthalenyl, 2-furanyl, 5-nitro-2-furanyl, 2-thiophenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxophenyl, 2,3-difluorophenyl, 2,4-difluorophenyl, 2,5-difluorophenyl, 2,6-difluorophenyl, 3,4-difluorophenyl, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 2,4-dichlorophenyl, 2,6-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl, 4-chloro-3-nitrophenyl, 5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl, 4-methyl-3-nitrophenyl, 2-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-fluoro-6-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 2,6-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,5-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4-trifluorophenyl, 2,3,6-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,5-trifluorophenyl, 2,4,6-trichlorophenyl, 2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl, 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl, 2,4,5-trifluoro-3-methoxyphenyl, 2,3,4,5-tetrafluorophenyl, and pentafluorophenyl.

26. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is H.
27. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is H and X is C=O.
28. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is phosphate or its salt.
29. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is 4-chlorophenyl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each methyl.
30. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, R<sub>1</sub> is 4-chlorophenyl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each methyl.
31. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each methyl.
32. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, R<sub>1</sub> is 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each methyl.

33. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O, R<sub>1</sub> is 4-iodophenyl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each methyl.

34. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, R<sub>1</sub> is 4-iodophenyl, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are each methyl.

35. A method for preparing the compound of claim 1, which method comprises reacting an alkylphenol with acyl chloride in the presence of Lewis acid.

36. A method for preparing the compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, which method comprises reacting an alkylphenol with acyl chloride in the presence of Lewis acid.

37. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

38. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

39. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for parenteral administration and comprises nanoparticles of an anesthetic inducing effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable anesthetic carrier.

40. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 38, wherein X is C=O and Y is H, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is for parenteral administration and comprises nanoparticles of an anesthetic inducing effective amount of the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable anesthetic carrier.

41. A method of inducing sedation, hypnosis and/or sleep effect, or general anesthesia in a patient, which method comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

42. A method of inducing sedation, hypnosis and/or sleep effect, or general anesthesia in a patient, which method comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1, wherein X is C=O and Y is H.

43. The method of claim 41, wherein said administering is by a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, nasal respiratory administration, bolus injection, intravenous administration, continuous infusion, rectal administration, vaginal administration, sublingual administration, and cutaneous administration.

44. The method of claim 42, wherein said administering is by a method selected from the group consisting of oral administration, nasal respiratory administration, bolus injection, intravenous administration, continuous infusion, rectal administration, vaginal administration, sublingual administration, and cutaneous administration.

45. The method of claim 41, wherein the method of administration is continuous infusion.

46. The method of claim 42, wherein the method of administration is continuous infusion.